

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01

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R 140727Z MAPR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9214

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCON LENINGRAD

AMCON MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EEWT US UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET LECTURER DEFENSIVE ON EAST-WEST TRADE

REF: MOSCOW 4936

1. A. ZNANIYE SOVIET LECTURER APRIL 10, DISCUSSING "PROBLEMS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT," MADE A STRONG DEFENSE OF THE SOVIET POLICY OF TRADING WITH THE WEST, IN APPARENT REBUTTAL OF CRITICISM OS SUCH POLICY ON IDEOLOGICAL GROUNDS.

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2. THE LECTURER, CITING THE APRIL 10 PRAVDA ARTICLE BY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER PATOLICHEV (REFTEL, STRESSED IN HIS PREPARED SPEECH THAT THE SOVIET UNION CAN USE WESTERN CAPITAL AND CREDITS TO DEVELOP ITS OWN ECONOMY AND CAN DO SO WITHOUT DIMINISHING THE IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE WHICH REMAINS AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE. REPEATING A THEME OFTEN USED BY CPSU SECRETARY PONOMAREV, THE LECTURER SAID THAT SOVIET ORDERS PROVIDE JOBS IN THE WEST, THEREBY MAKING THE WORKING CLASSES IN THE WEST "GOOD PROPAGANDISTS FOR US."

3. FOLLOWING THE PREPARED LECTURE, THE SPEAKER RETURNED TO THE THEME IN A LONG ANSWER TO THE QUESTION: "WHAT PRICES ARE WE PAYING FOR GOODS FROM THE CAPITALISTS?" AFTER SAYING THAT THE SOVIETS PAY MARKET PRICES, HE LAUNCHED INTO A LONG DEFENSE OF EAST-WEST TRADE. HE SAID THAT THE JAPANESE AND SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTIES HAD ACCUSED THE CPSU OF HELPING OUT THE CAPITALISTS WITH ITS ECONOMIC POLICIES. IN REFUTATION HE BRANDISHED A STATEMENT BY CPUSA LEADER GUS HALL THAT SOVIET-U.S. ECONOMIC TIES IMPROVE THE LOT OF THE U.S. WORKER. HE NOTED THAT UK PRIME MINISTER WILSON IS THE HEAD OF THE LABOUR PARTY, WHICH HE DEFINED FOR HIS AUDIENCE AS A "GENUINE PARTY OF THE WORKER" AND WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS THE CHIEF VOICE OF THE BRITISH LABOR MOVEMENT. HE SAID THAT WILSON'S INTEREST DURING HIS RECENT VISIT IN EXPANDING TRADE PROVED THAT TRADE HELPED THE WORKING CLASSES IN BRITAIN.

4. THE SPEAKER SAID THAT OPPONENTS OF EAST-WEST TRADE MUST THEREFORE WISH FOR A WORSENING OF THE CONDITION OF THE WESTERN WORKING CLASS. IN CONCLUSION HE CHARGED THAT "THIS PRINCIPLE OF 'THE WORSE, THE BETTER' IS TROTSKYISM, ANARCHISM, AND NONSENSE."

5. COMMENT. THE VEHEMENCE WITH WHICH THE LECTURER MADE HIS CASE WOULD TEND TO INDICATE THAT HE WAS RESPONDING TO REAL IDEOLOGICAL CONCERN ON THE PART OF COMMUNISTS IN THE SOVIET UNION ABOUT SOVIET-WESTERN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AT A TIME WHEN WESTERN ECONOMIES ARE IN TROUBLE.  
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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

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